

BOROUGH OF SALE



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948

BOROUGH OF SALE



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948

The Mayor

Councillor F. D. GEE, C.C., J.P.

The Deputy Mayor

Alderman A. W. MAWER, C.C.

Health Committee

Chairman: Councillor L. BETHELL

Vice-Chairman: Councillor P. ROWLES

Alderman R. P. BANNISTER, LL.B.

„ W. PLANT, J.P.

Councillor W. L. BEEBY, O.B.E., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.P.E.

„ W. A. COSTELLO

„ G. ELLIOTT

„ F. D. GEE, C.C., J.P.

„ R. G. GRAHAM

„ W. HANLEY

„ W. A. JONES

„ E. LEE, A.M.I.E.E.

„ J. G. McBEATH, F.R.I.B.A.

„ Mrs. W. M. PHILLIPS, M.A., J.P.

„ T. A. WINNINGTON

„ V. S. WEBB

„ R. M. WILLAN

„ E. A. WRIGHT

OFFICIALS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

ERIC H. MOORE, B.Sc., M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector

W. NORRIS, Cert. S.I.B.

Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector

G. WATERWORTH, Cert. S.I.B.

Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Certified Smoke Inspector.

Clerks

W. SHEPHERD

Mrs. E. ALDHOUSE

Ambulance Officer

J. B. KIRKBY

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ending 31st December, 1948

*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Sale*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the fourteenth Annual Report on the health of the Municipal Borough of Sale.

It has been an important year in the history of the Health Services by reason of the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on the 5th July, 1948. This Act has brought about profound changes in all branches of the Health Services and not least in those administered by Local Authorities. The Local Health Authorities under this Act are the Councils of Counties and County Boroughs, and on the 5th July, 1948, health services previously administered by other authorities were taken under their administration. In the case of the Borough of Sale, the Cheshire County Council became responsible for the Ambulance Service and for Immunisation. The County Council have delegated the administration of these services to the Divisional Health Committee. This report, therefore, only deals with these services for the period to the 5th July, 1948. In an appendix is included certain information relating to the Divisional Health Services which may be of interest and for supplying much of the data, I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health.

During the year there has been no unusual incidence of disease, and there was no recurrence of the outbreak of poliomyelitis which affected the whole country in 1947. The general standard of health of the Borough is good as shown by the vital statistics.

I wish to acknowledge the support and encouragement received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and the help received from the Sanitary Inspectors and clerical staff of the Health Department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC H. MOORE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

Statistical Summary and Social Conditions of the Area

- 1 -

<i>Area</i>	3,628·5 acres
-------------	--------------------------------------------------------	---------------

Population

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population (mid-1948)	42,850
--------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------	--------

Houses

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to the rate books	13,268
----------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------	--------

Rateable value

Rateable value of the district (end of 1948)	.... ....	£325,460
Sum represented by a penny rate	.... .... ....	£1,295

Sale is an attractive municipality, situated 5½ miles south-west of the centre of the City of Manchester. It is almost entirely residential with a few industrial undertakings. The majority of its ratepayers are employed in works, factories, offices and business houses in neighbouring industrial areas such as Trafford Park, Manchester and Altrincham. There is one main shopping centre and several secondary shopping centres. There are three large parks and numerous smaller open spaces with facilities for recreational activities. There are two golf courses, one on each side of the Borough.

- 2 -

Vital Statistics

Births

The number of births registered in, and allocated to, the Borough of Sale is 649 (331 males and 318 females). Still births number 16 (4 males and 12 females).

<i>Live births</i>	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate births 	313	307	620
Illegitimate births 	18	11	29

<i>Still births</i>	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate still births 	4	11	15
Illegitimate still births 	0	1	1

representing a live birth rate of 15·1 per 1,000 of the population and a still birth rate of 0·37 per 1,000 of the population.

For 1947 these rates were 18·6 and 0·44 respectively. The illegitimate births number 30, being 4·62 per cent of the total.

To equal the birth rate of England and Wales, 120 more babies should have been born in the Borough of Sale in 1948.

Deaths

The total number of deaths, corrected for outward and inward transfer, is 485 (males 244, females 241) representing a death rate of 11·3 per 1,000 of the population. For 1947, the death rate was 11·4.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age is 17, corresponding to an infantile mortality rate of 26 per 1,000 live births. Of these 17 infantile deaths, 15 are attributed to congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.

Deaths due to puerperal causes

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0·00
Other puerperal causes	0	0·00

Deaths due to tuberculosis

	Total
Respiratory system (males 12, females 4)	16
Non-respiratory system (males 5, females 1)	6
Total number of deaths due to tuberculosis	22
<i>Deaths due to cancer (males 44, females 24)</i>	<i>68</i>

Deaths due to diarrhoea, under two years of age (males 1, females 1)

2

Deaths due to zymotic diseases

Measles	0
Scarlet fever	0
Whooping cough	1
Diphtheria	0

TABLE I

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES
FOR THE YEAR 1948

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	Sale
	Rates per 1,000 Population			
<i>Births—</i>				
Live	17·9	20·0	19·2	15·14
Still	0·42	0·52	0·43	0·37
<i>Deaths—</i>				
All causes	10·8	11·6	10·7	11·31
Typhoid and para- typhoid fevers	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping cough	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·02
Diphtheria	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Tuberculosis	0·51	0·59	0·46	0·49
Influenza	0·03	0·03	0·04	0·02
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	0·41	0·38	0·36	0·21
<i>Notifications—</i>				
Typhoid fever....	0·01	0·00	0·01	0·00
Paratyphoid fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·00
Cerebro-spinal fever	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·00
Scarlet fever	1·73	1·90	1·82	1·56
Whooping cough	3·42	3·51	3·31	2·03
Diphtheria	0·08	0·10	0·09	0·02
Erysipelas	0·21	0·23	0·21	0·18
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	9·34	9·75	8·84	6·48
Pneumonia	0·73	0·84	0·60	0·09
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births			
Deaths under 1 year of age	34	39	32	26
Deaths from diarrhoea, enteritis under 2 years of age	3·3	4·5	2·1	1·4

TABLE II
CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH

DISEASES	1948	
	M.	F.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—
Whooping cough	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	12	4
Other forms of tuberculosis	5	1
Syphilitic diseases	—	1
Influenza	—	1
Measles	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
Acute infective encephalitis	—	—
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus in Males	3	—
Cancer of uterus	—	2
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	9	6
Cancer of breast	—	10
Cancer of all other sites	32	6
Diabetes	3	1
Intracranial vascular lesions	36	45
Heart disease	77	85
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	8
Bronchitis	12	14
Pneumonia	8	1
Other respiratory diseases	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	3
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	1
Appendicitis	1	1
Other digestive diseases	3	7
Nephritis	2	3
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	—	—
Premature birth	3	3
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, etc.	4	5
Suicide	5	2
Road traffic accidents	2	1
Other violent causes	5	1
All other causes	15	25
ALL CAUSES	244	241

TABLE III

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total Deaths under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Broncho-pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
∞ Premature birth	3	3	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Congenital malformations	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Asphyxia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Cerebral haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Jaundice	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Totals	7	5	—	—	12	1	2	2	—	17

Extract from Vital Statistics for 1948

Live births	649 (M. 331, F. 318)
(Legitimate)	620 (M. 313, F. 307)
(Illegitimate)	29 (M. 18, F. 11)
Live birth rate per 1,000 of the population	15·14
Still births—Legitimate 15, illegitimate 1	16
Still birth rate per 1,000 of the population	0·37
Deaths	485 (M. 244, F. 241)
Death rate per 1,000 of the population	11·31
Deaths from puerperal causes	0

(Headings of the Registrar-General's short list 29 and 30)

	Rate per 1,000 live and still births
No. 29. Puerperal sepsis	0·00
No. 30. Other puerperal causes	0·00
Death rate of infants under one year of age:	
Infants per 1,000 live births (all legitimate)	26
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	68
Deaths from measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

The Sale Borough Council is not an authority under the National Health Service Act, the services under this Act being administered by the Cheshire County Council.

The vital statistics of this report reveal the excellent results that can be achieved in maternity and infant welfare work.

Laboratory facilities

During the year 1948, 61 specimens were sent for bacteriological examination and report, 35 to the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine of the University of Manchester, and 26 to the laboratory of the Evans Biological Institute at Runcorn.

In December the work previously carried out by the University of Manchester in the examination of specimens was transferred to the Regional Public Health Laboratory which has been set up at Monsall Hospital.

Manchester Laboratory

22 throat swabs for diphtheria—all negative.

8 throat swabs for haemolytic streptococci—5 of which proved positive.

1 specimen for salmonella infection and dysentery—negative.

4 swabs for Vincent's angina—all negative.

Runcorn Laboratory

21 throat swabs for diphtheria—1 of which proved positive.

4 swabs for haemolytic streptococci—all negative.

1 swab for Vincent's angina—negative.

During 1948, 84 specimens of sputum were bacteriologically examined for tubercle bacillus by the Public Health Laboratory of the County of Chester—23 of which were found to be positive.

In 1948, 12 reports were received from the Public Health Laboratory of Manchester in respect of tests and bacteriological content of various samples of milk. These reports are detailed in the following table.

TABLE IV
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK, 1948

	$\frac{1}{2}$ hr. Methylene Blue Test			Methylene Blue Test			B. Coli			Bacterial Count			Phosphatase Test		
	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisf.	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisf.	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisf.	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisf.	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisf.
From outside producers delivering to retailers in Sale:—															
1. Undesignated 	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	4	2	2	—	—	—
2. Accredited milk ..	—	—	—	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Heat-treated milk 	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Pasteurised milk 	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tuberculin tested tested 	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	—	4	1	3	4	3	1	4	2	2	—	—	—

Ambulance facilities

Two ambulances of the two-stretcher type were provided and maintained by the Sale Corporation. In addition two vehicles which have been converted for ambulance use were held in reserve for ambulance purposes. These are a legacy from the Civil Defence Casualty Services. Two new ambulances have been on order for some time and one was delivered late in the year.

On July 5th the Ambulance Service was transferred to the County Council who delegated their function to the Divisional Health Committee.

From January 1st to July 4th, 1,090 journeys were made, the mileage amounting to 10,484. The staff during this period remained unchanged—one ambulance officer, 9 drivers, 4 attendants, 1 cleaner and 6 part-time drivers.

From July 5th to December 31st, 2,054 journeys were made, 17,885 miles being travelled. In November a sitting case car was added to the fleet.

These ambulances are engaged in non-infectious and accident cases. Infectious cases are removed by the Ambulance Service of the Moseley Fever Hospital.

Nursing in the home

There were three District Nurses in the Borough, two based on the Sale and Brooklands War Memorial Hospital, and the other on the Ashton-on-Mersey Hospital and Nursing Home. Since the 5th July these nurses have worked independently of the hospitals, though one nurse was accommodated at the Sale and Brooklands War Memorial Hospital.

Treatment centres and clinics

There are two Child Welfare Centres in the Borough. The Chapel Road Centre is an excellent building for the purpose. It is administered by the Cheshire County Council and provides for the following services:—

Infant Welfare Centre:	Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m.
Toddlers' Day:	Second Wednesday in each calendar month from 2 to 4 p.m.
Ante-natal Clinic:	First and third Wednesday in each calendar month from 2 to 4 p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	Every Friday morning from 10.45 a.m.
Minor Ailments Clinic:	Each school day from 9 to 10.30 a.m.
County Ophthalmic Surgeon:	By appointment. Usually about 40 sessions per annum.

School Medical Officer:	Second Tuesday morning of each calendar month from 9.30 a.m.
Artificial Sunlight:	Monday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 12 a.m.
Massage:	Tuesday afternoon and Friday morning.

A Child Welfare Clinic was opened during the year in the Community Hut at Sale Moor and operates for one session weekly.

The housing development of Sale has taken place in areas quite a long distance from the administrative centre of the Borough at which the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is located. For the convenience of the mothers of these areas, one more child welfare centre is needed at Woodheys. This is contemplated by the County Council.

Day Nursery

There is a Day Nursery in the Borough. It was opened in November, 1942, as a war-time nursery by the Ministry of Health. From the 1st April, 1946, it was administered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Cheshire County Council, but from the 5th July, 1948, the general administration has been in the hands of the Divisional Health Committee. The Nursery is capable of accommodating 50 children and is full to capacity with a long waiting list.

Hospitals

(1) Isolation

There is no isolation hospital in Sale. Cases of infectious disease requiring isolation are sent to Monsall Fever Hospital, Manchester. Transport for such cases is provided by the Manchester Corporation Ambulance Service.

(2) Smallpox

Arrangements are made through the Manchester Regional Hospital Board for the treatment and isolation of any smallpox cases in the Manchester Smallpox Hospital.

(3) Maternity

There is no special hospital provided in Sale for maternity cases or for the treatment of children.

The Sale and Brooklands War Memorial Hospital has maternity wards containing 16 beds, and also at the Ashton-on-Mersey Hospital and Nursing Home beds are provided for maternity cases.

(4) Orthopaedic

An orthopaedic clinic serving a wide area, including Sale, is held at the Altrincham General Hospital every Tuesday morning and is conducted by a specialist in orthopaedics.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water supply

The water supply is provided by Manchester Corporation. It is of good quality and soft in character. There are eight houses in the Borough without a piped supply.

Drainage and sewage disposal

Sale Corporation Sewage Works are situated in Ashton at the north-western boundary of the district. They were completed in 1935 and deal with a dry weather flow of two million gallons per day. Treatment is by sedimentation and biological filtration. During the year samples of the effluent were taken at frequent intervals by the River's Board and all were reported as satisfactory with a good percentage of purification and settlement of solids.

Treatment of the sides of the filters with gammexane to control an infestation of the filter fly was carried out during the year. The treatment was successful and resulted in an elimination of the danger of the spread of this insect to dwellings in the neighbourhood.

At the Sewage Works there is also a small meteorological station where maximum and minimum day and night temperatures are recorded and where rainfall is measured by means of rain recording gauges. There is no apparatus for recording wind direction, hours of sunlight or barometric pressures.

Smoke abatement

The only complaints of smoke nuisances during the year related to the temporary use of portable steam-raising equipment for soil sterilization at one of the market gardens within the Borough. The matter was taken up with the Horticultural Officer of the Cheshire Agricultural Executive Committee and with the Ministry of Fuel and Power and some improvement resulted.

Swimming baths

The public swimming bath in Broad Road is owned by the Corporation and has a capacity of 66,000 gallons. The water is treated by filtration and chlorination. Towards the end of 1948 the installation of a new purification plant and the construction of a scum channel in the swimming bath was commenced. The new purification plant should allow for complete filtration of the swimming bath water every two and a half hours instead of every ten hours as hitherto, and this should result in the maintenance of the water at an excellent standard at all times. The new scum channel will provide for the effective and continual removal of all floating material from the water. In the same building there are six slipper baths.

The Lido Swimming Bath, which is under private ownership, but for public use was reopened in July, 1948, after having been closed since the outbreak of the war. Its capacity is 156,000 gallons and the water is treated by filtration and chlorination, the filter capacity and pumping apparatus enabling a four-hourly treatment to be carried out. Samples of the bath water were taken during 1948 and were satisfactory. There are six slipper baths for public use.

There are no byelaws in operation within the Borough regarding swimming baths.

Cemeteries

There is one cemetery at Brooklands owned by the Corporation and which occupies an area of 20 acres. The average yearly interments number 365. This cemetery was opened in 1862 then under the control of a Burial Board and it was taken over by the Sale Urban District Council in 1895. There are also two other burials grounds in the town, one at St. Martin's Church and one at the Friends' Meeting House in Park Road.

Mortuary

The mortuary is situated within the grounds of the cemetery and is owned by the Corporation but its use is determined by the police. During 1948 it was used for the reception of bodies on 20 occasions and 16 post-mortem examinations were carried out.

Open spaces and pleasure grounds

In the Borough there is an area of approximately one hundred acres of public open spaces.

I append below a table of open spaces provided in the district.

TABLE V							Area in acres
Sale Park	....	....	....	....	....	....	16.14
Ashton Recreational Ground	....	....	....	....	....	....	12.68
Walton Park	....	....	....	....	....	....	12.55
Clarendon Crescent Playing Fields	....	....	....	....	....	....	12.68
Altrincham/Sale Boundary—Brook Reservations	....	....	....	....	....	....	6.16
Brooklands Rest Park	....	....	....	....	....	....	1.12
Carrington Lane Open Space Site (appropriated for housing purposes)	....	....	....	....	....	....	11.30
Carrington Lane Island Site	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.21
Cecil Avenue Site (undeveloped)	....	....	....	....	....	....	13.39
Fairy Lane	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.26
Harley Road children's playground	....	....	....	....	....	....	1.23
Kelsall Street children's playground	....	....	....	....	....	....	1.33
Moor Nook (undeveloped)	....	....	....	....	....	....	13.20
Northenden Road Little Park	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.62
North Parade Island Park	....	....	....	....	....	....	0.22
Priory Gardens	....	....	....	....	....	....	4.04
							acres
							107.13

I am indebted to the Borough Surveyor for the above table.

Rivers and streams

The Lancashire Rivers Board deal with any matters concerning rivers pollution within this Borough. No occasion has arisen during the year where the Board has had to take action in Sale.

Closet accommodation

The majority of the dwelling houses in the district have water closets. There is a small number of closets of the conservancy type at cottages and farms in the outlying parts of the district and about 60 waste water closets at older properties in the built-up part of the town. Towards the end of the year the conversion of some of these waste water closets (Belgrave Road and Eaton Road) was commenced and it is hoped to carry out the conversion of the majority of the remainder during 1949.

Storage of petroleum

One new application for a licence to store petroleum was submitted during the year and was granted. There is now a total of 45 licences in operation relating to premises used for the storage of petroleum.

Hackney carriages

At the beginning of 1948 there were 23 vehicles licensed to ply for hire within the Borough. Four additional licences were issued during the year making a total of 27.

Refuse collection and disposal

The collection and disposal of household refuse is dealt with by the Health Department. Four S.D. freighters, one Dennis and two Karrier vehicles are employed on this work. Five of the vehicles are in regular service on refuse collection, one is employed mainly on collection of kitchen waste and salvage and the other waggon is used as a spare. All the vehicles are provided with sliding metal covers. Trailers are used for the collection of waste paper and other salvagable materials and they have been found to facilitate salvage collection considerably. There is no doubt that their employment has been a stimulus to the housewife to assist in the salvage effort.

Tipping operations at the Priory in Dane Road were commenced in September, 1948, the whole of the land at Crossford Bridge Tip, with the exception of a narrow strip alongside the gas holder, being filled in. Tipping at the Priory has created certain difficulties principally attributable to the swampy nature of the land. There should be some improvement when the proposed land drainage works are carried out but until the whole of the swampy land is filled in, special precautions to deal with the breeding of flies and other insect pests will have to be carefully carried out.

A considerable area of land at Crossford Bridge Tip was soiled over during 1948 and transferred to the Parks Department and will ultimately be used for playing fields.

Certain types of trade refuse are delivered to the tip by traders themselves. To receive this, the tip is kept open on Saturday afternoon and a workman is employed until 5 o'clock on that day to deal with it.

TABLE VI
REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL COSTS

	Collection, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		Disposal, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		Total	
	Included	Excluded	Included	Excluded	Included	Excluded
Gross expenditure	£ 9499	£ 9499	£ 1554	£ 1343	£ 11053	£ 11842
Gross income	48	48	175	175	223	223
Net cost	9451	9451	1379	1168	10830	10619
UNIT COSTS	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net cost per 1,000 of population	221	221	32	27	253	248
Net cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected	691	691	100	85	791	776

Salvage

During the year 1948 salvage of waste material was carried on and a total of £2,616 1s. 1d. was realised as compared with the period ended 31st December, 1947, which amounted to £1,958 5s. 8d.

Additional sums of £107 14s. 8d. and £75 1s. 1d. have been paid as a grant from the Government for the collection of paper and kitchen waste respectively.

The total weight of salvage collected since 1939 to December, 1948, is 4,171 tons, and the income from the sale of these materials—£20,262 (plus £407 4s. 0d. collection allowance).

SALVAGE

January to December, 1948

				T.	c.	q.	lb.		£	s.	d.
Mixed paper	....	....	....	340	14	0	0	....	2187	5	10
Ferrous metals	....	....	....	12	10	2	0	....	23	3	9
Non-ferrous metals	....	....	....	1	11	3	18	....	61	5	3
Rags, etc.	....	....	....	14	14	3	10	....	163	11	0
Bottles and jars	....	....	....	7	14	0	0	....	35	10	9
Bones	....	....	....		6	0	0	....	1	14	6
String	....	....	....		5	1	18	....	1	17	11
Kitchen waste	....	....	....	85	16	1	0	....	141	12	1
Total....	....	....	....	463	12	3	18	....	£2616	1	1

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Drainage inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	332
House inspections for defects, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	....	224
House inspections for infectious diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	43
Re-inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	1479
Rooms disinfected after infectious diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	116
Workshops and factory inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	48
Shops Acts inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	28
Bakehouse inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Food and Drugs Acts inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	189
Slaughterhouse inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Cowsheds and dairies inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	56
Ice-cream preparation premises inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	43
Vermin inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	28
Rats and mice inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	235
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	....	....	170
Letters and informal notices	....	....	....	....	....	....	339
Statutory Notices served	....	....	....	....	....	....	31
Complied with by owners	....	....	....	....	....	....	63
Work carried out by local authority in default	....	....	....	....	....	....	NIL

WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

Defective roofs	....	....	....	....	....	....	89
„ gutters	....	....	....	....	....	....	36
„ rainwater fallpipes	....	....	....	....	....	....	31
„ soilpipes	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
„ sinks	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
„ sink waste pipes	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
„ floors	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
„ fire grates	....	....	....	....	....	....	47
„ yard surfaces	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
„ yard gates	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
„ washboilers	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
„ plaster	....	....	....	....	....	....	105
„ pointing to brickwork	....	....	....	....	....	....	30
„ windows and doors	....	....	....	....	....	....	77
„ pointing to windows and doors	....	....	....	....	....	....	27
„ window cords	....	....	....	....	....	....	28
„ window sills	....	....	....	....	....	....	46
„ drains	....	....	....	....	....	....	30
„ water closets	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
„ pedestals	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
„ closet cisterns	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
„ damp walls	....	....	....	....	....	....	27

Defective closet seats	....	....	....	....	....	5
„ walls	....	....	....	....	....	66
„ chimneys	....	....	....	....	....	19
„ door steps	....	....	....	....	....	10
„ coal stores	....	....	....	....	....	3
„ water pipes repaired	....	....	....	....	....	12
„ washbowls	....	....	....	....	....	1
Watercloset rebuilt	....	....	....	....	....	1
Dustbins renewed	....	....	....	....	....	1145
Stair handrails provided	....	....	....	....	....	1
Accumulations of refuse removed	....	....	....	....	....	7

Shops and Offices

Under the Shops Act, 1934, and Public Health Act, 1936, shops and offices where persons are employed must be provided with suitable sanitary accommodation.

Eradication of bed bugs

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------------|------|------|----|
| (i) Number of council houses disinfested | .... | .... | 10 |
| (ii) Number of other houses disinfested | .... | .... | 11 |

The use of D.D.T. for eradication of vermin infestations was continued during the year. In all cases of bed bug infestations a complete cure was effected.

Rats and mice

In July, 1948, the administration of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, was delegated to the Council, prior to this date this Council had acted as agents for the County Council. The Senior Sanitary Inspector acts as Rodent Officer and one of the Health Department's employes as Rodent Operative. Non-agricultural premises only are dealt with, agricultural premises are the responsibility of the County Council.

During the year 9 serious and 71 minor cases of rat infestation, and 23 cases of mice infestation were dealt with by the Council on behalf of the occupiers.

The Council's tip and sewage works are inspected regularly and treated from time to time, as necessity arises. The methods used in the extermination are those recommended by the Ministry of Food.

SECTION D

Housing

At the end of 1948 there was still a considerable shortage of houses in the Borough and many houses are shared by more than one family.

It is not possible to assess the extent of overcrowding as laid down by the standards in the Housing Act, 1936. A complete survey of the town would have to be made to arrive at any reliable assessment. In many houses where there is no overcrowding according to the standards laid down in the Housing Act, the sleeping arrangements are unsatisfactory. This arises in many instances where two or more families share the same dwelling.

It is gratifying to note that in 1948 the carrying out of housing repairs became somewhat easier as more building materials and labour were available, but the high cost of building repairs still remained an important factor and owners of property were reluctant to do any repairs which were not absolutely essential.

It will be seen from the following table that the demolition of four houses (on the corner of Wharf Road and Bank Street) was carried out during the year.

Housing statistics

Total number of new houses built during the year	....	....	148
(a) By private enterprise	....	....	5
(b) By the Local Authority	....	....	143

A. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	....	....	224
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	....	1703	
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932)	....	....	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	....	Nil	
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	....	....	4
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	....	....	220

B. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

(a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	218
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------	------	-----

C. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—						
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—						
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs					Nil
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—					
	By owners	....	....	....	....	10
	By Local Authority in default of owners	....				Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—						
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied					31
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—					
	By owners	....	....	....	....	53
	By Local Authority in default of owners	....				Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—						
(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made					Nil
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders					4
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—						
(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made					Nil
(ii)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit					Nil

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk supply

Only a very small percentage of milk supplied in the Borough is produced locally and a large percentage of the milk brought from outside sources is either Pasteurised or heat-treated.

There are now on the register 4 milk producers all of whom are licensed as Accredited producers. Of the 48 purveyors of milk on the register, 44 have premises within the district and the remaining 4 sell milk in the district but their premises are registered in other areas.

19 are licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested milk.

12 are licensed to sell Pasteurised milk.

1 is licensed to bottle Tuberculin Tested milk.

Unsound food

The following food has been surrendered during the year as being unfit for human consumption:—

Beef	....	....	....	....	....	232	lbs.
Bovine liver	....	....	....	....	....	28	lbs.
Butter	....	....	....	....	....	$\frac{1}{2}$	lb.
Potted meat	....	....	....	....	....	164	lbs.
Fish	....	....	....	....	....	9	stones
Fish paste	....	....	....	....	....	3	jars
Fish cakes	....	....	....	....	....	60	
Sweets	....	....	....	....	....	10	lbs.
Tinned fruit	....	....	....	....	....	120	tins
Tinned fish	....	....	....	....	....	122	tins
Tinned meat	....	....	....	....	....	266	tins
Tinned vegetables	....	....	....	....	....	186	tins
Tinned jam	....	....	....	....	....	1870	tins
Tinned soup	....	....	....	....	....	21	tins
Tinned puddings	....	....	....	....	....	3	tins
Tinned fruit juice	....	....	....	....	....	8	tins
Tinned condensed milk	....	....	....	....	....	7	tins
Tinned evaporated milk	....	....	....	....	....	59	tins
Beetroots, pickles, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	35	jars
Almond paste	....	....	....	....	....	20	lbs.
Figs	....	....	....	....	....	37	lbs.
Walnuts	....	....	....	....	....	10	lbs.
Pre-packed lettuce	....	....	....	....	....	6	packets
Pre-packed vegetable salad	....	....	....	....	....	6	packets

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The following samples were obtained in the Borough of Sale during the year ended 31st December, 1948. These particulars were obtained from the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Chester, whose officers are responsible for the administration of the Act.

Name of sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to standard
Boracic powder	1	—
Cake	1	—
Cake mixtures	3	—
Chest and lung mixtures	1	—
Cinnamon (ground)	1	—
Cream buns	1	—
Epsom salts	1	—
Figs—syrup of	1	—
Fish pastes	1	—
Friars balsam	1	—
Ginger ale	1	—
Ground ginger	2	—
Glauber's salt	1	—
Glycerine	1	—
"Hamburger"	1	—
Herbs	1	—
Lemonade	1	—
Lemonade crystals	2	—
Liver pills	1	—
Magnesia	1	—
Meat pastes	1	—
Meat pies	1	—
Milk (fresh)	80	1
Mint (in vinegar)	1	—
Paraffin (liquid)	1	—
Pepper	1	—
Peppermint essence	1	—
Potatoes (dried)	1	—
Pudding mixtures	1	—
Sauce	1	—
Sausage	6	2
Seidlitz powders	1	—
Sulphur tablets	1	—
Sulphur ointment	1	—
Sulphur and yeast tablets	1	—
Throat tablets	1	—
Toffee	3	—
Tripe	1	—
Vinegar	1	—
Zinc Ointment	1	—
Total	130	3

The fact that only one out of 80 samples of milk obtained failed to reach the legal standard is very satisfactory and even in that one instance there was no evidence of wilful abstraction. The milk was deficient in fat to the extent of 8.3 per cent. The seller was cautioned.

The two samples of sausage reported against both concerned one trader. The first sample was deficient in meat content to the extent of 14 per cent and the follow-up sample to the extent of 30 per cent. Legal proceedings were instituted and the seller was fined.

Factories and workshops

1. Inspection of factories, workshops and workplaces, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector:—

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	29	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	19	—	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises).....	2	—	—
Total	50	—	—

2. Defects found:—

Particulars (1)	Number of defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences—				
Insufficient, unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Orders, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	—	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—

SECTION F

Prevalence and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

The following table shows the number of cases of each of the diseases notified during the year, the number sent to hospital and the deaths from these diseases.

TABLE VII
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(other than tuberculosis) during the year 1948

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Measles 	278	1	—
Whooping cough 	87	—	1
Scarlet fever 	67	15	—
Pneumonia (primary or influenzal)	4	★	9
Erysipelas 	8	2	—
Diphtheria 	1	1	—
Dysentery 	—	—	—
Smallpox 	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia 	1	1	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum 	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis 	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis 	—	—	—
Totals 	446	20	10

★ Number of cases admitted to hospital unknown; these cases are admitted by the general practitioners directly to hospital.

TABLE VIII

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES THE AGE-INCIDENCE OF
THE AFOREMENTIONED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Age periods	Scarlet fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping cough	Measles	Puerperal pyrexia	Totals
0-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	6
1-	3	-	-	-	15	60	-	78
3-	9	-	1	-	37	70	-	117
5-	30	1	1	-	30	141	-	203
10-	12	-	-	-	2	1	-	15
15-	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	9
25-	3	-	-	-	-	2	1	6
35-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
45-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	7
65 and over	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Total	67	1	4	8	87	278	1	446

TABLE IX

WARD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	St. Annes	Brook-lands	Sale Moor	St. Pauls	St. Johns	St. Martins	St. Marys	Mersey	Totals
Scarlet fever	14	4	19	6	4	3	6	11	67
Pneumonia	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	4
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	1	8
Measles	28	49	28	39	21	26	67	20	278
Whooping cough	7	9	7	10	12	14	14	14	87
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	51	63	57	56	38	45	90	46	446

Measles

There were 278 cases of measles notified during the year as compared with 435 in 1947, and giving a case rate of 6.48 per thousand as compared with 10.12 for 1947 and 9.34 for the country as a whole.

Whooping cough

There were 87 cases of whooping cough notified during the year compared with 51 in 1947, and giving a rate per thousand of 2.03 compared with 1.20 for 1947 and 3.42 for the country as a whole.

Whooping cough immunisation

Immunisation against whooping cough was commenced in this Borough in 1942.

During 1942, 335 children were treated and 291 children during 1943. Most of these were under one year of age.

The vaccine employed was given in four doses of 1 c.c. There was a number of children who had some local reaction, but general reactions were never severe, and of approximately 700 children who commenced treatment 626 completed it. In addition, about 100 children were immunised privately.

The treatment was discontinued during 1944 and 1945, but was resumed in 1946, 174 children being immunised, 117 of these under one year of age. In 1947, 291 children were immunised, 218 being under one year of age, and up to July 5th, 1948, 254 children were immunised, 198 being under one year of age. From July 5th to the end of the year the respective figures are 224 and 163. The vaccine now employed is given in three doses of 1.0 c.c.

Scarlet fever

This disease has been of a mild character for several years. The policy was continued of not admitting uncomplicated cases to the hospital unless it was rendered necessary by special circumstances such as overcrowding or lack of proper isolation facilities.

There were 67 cases notified and of these 15 were admitted to hospital. The case rate for 1948 is 1.56 as compared with 1.73 for the country as a whole and 0.66 for 1947.

Erysipelas

Eight cases were notified during the year as compared with 2 in 1947. This gives a case rate of 0.18 per thousand of the population as compared with 0.04 for 1947, and 0.21 for the country as a whole.

Diphtheria

One case of diphtheria was notified during the year. This gives a notification rate of 0.02 per thousand of the population compared with 0.04 for 1947. The rate for the country as a whole was 0.08.

At this point it is interesting to recall the incidence of diphtheria in this district since the commencement of immunisation at the end of 1935, and a table is submitted of the number of cases notified and the number of deaths from this disease during the 13 years 1936 to 1948.

Diphtheria incidence and mortality

Year	Cases notified	Deaths
1936	109	12
1937	41	3
1938	36	2
1939	19	—
1940	17	—
1941	14	—
1942	11	1
1943	13	1
1944	2	—
1945	1	—
1946	1	—
1947	2	—
1948	1	—

It will be seen that the incidence of diphtheria has been steadily reduced and has not been subject to the rises and falls of scarlet fever.

Diphtheria immunisation

A weekly clinic is held on each Friday forenoon for the immunisation of children against diphtheria and whooping cough. The following figures indicate that 48·6 per cent of children under 5 years of age and 97·7 per cent of those over 5 years and under 15 years of age have been protected against diphtheria. Many children have been immunised privately and the figures available do not give an accurate assessment of the immunity level in the Borough. There is no obligation on the general practitioner to notify immunity inoculation to the Town Hall where he obtains the prophylactic material from private sources. Compulsory notification remunerated by fee would provide more reliable figures.

Propaganda in all possible forms will ever be needed to remind the ordinary citizen what immunisation has done, what it stands for, and what will certainly happen if parents become apathetic and neglectful in having their children adequately protected.

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948

Age	Number Immunised From 1st Jan. to 5th July	From 5th July to 31st Dec.	Estimated Population	Estimated % of the child population who have been immunised
Under 1	1	30	3526	48·6%
1	220	187		
2	380	30		
3	364	15		
4	480	8	5101	97·7%
5 to 9	2319	37		
10 to 14	2628	1		
Total	6392	308	8627	—

Puerperal pyrexia

There was one case of puerperal pyrexia notified during the year, which was admitted to hospital.

Tuberculosis

There were 22 deaths from tuberculosis during the year, of which 16 were pulmonary cases (12 males and 4 females) as compared with 21 deaths in 1947.

There is a grave shortage of sanatorium beds and many people who are willing to receive treatment have to wait for admission.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of new cases of tuberculosis (including cases coming to knowledge other than by formal notification), and a similar distribution of deaths from tuberculosis.

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	—	3	1	—	—	2	—
5 to 15 years	—	1	2	4	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 years	4	10	—	—	1	—	—	—
25 to 35 years	1	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
35 to 45 years	3	2	—	—	1	—	1	—
45 to 55 years	2	2	—	1	2	1	1	1
55 to 65 years	2	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
65 and upwards	2	—	—	—	3	—	1	—
Total	14	18	5	6	12	4	5	1

Total deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis 22
Notified after or within 3 months of death 40·9%

It should be mentioned here that the chief cause of the delay of notification is the reluctance of the patient to seek early medical advice.

TABLE X

ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL FIGURES FROM REGISTER OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
Number on register, 1st January, 1948	115	41	80	50	286
New notifications, 1948	14	5	18	6	43
Restored to register	—	—	3	—	3
Cases brought to notice, otherwise than by formal notification (inward transfers, un-notified cases from death returns)	3	—	3	—	6
Removed from register, deaths, outward transfers, recovered	31	10	14	4	59
Number on register, 31st December, 1948	101	36	90	52	279

Cancer and malignant disease

Deaths from cancer and other forms of malignant disease amounted to 68, or 14·0% of the total deaths.

There were 44 deaths amongst males and 24 amongst females.

Distribution of this disease according to age and sex and the organs affected is in the following table.

TABLE XI
CANCER DEATHS DURING 1948

Site of Lesion	Age and Sex Periods																Totals	
	Under 15		15-25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-65		65 & over				Both Sexes	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Buccal cavity and oesophagus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	3	1	4	
Larynx, lungs and bronchi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	1	-	6	-	6	
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	4	-	2	-	10	10		
Stomach	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	2	-	3	3	9	4	13	
Liver and gall bladder.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	2		
Intestines and Rectum & vagina	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	5	-	6	4	16	4	20	
Cervix and uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	3	4	
Prostate and bladder.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	-	5	
Other sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	4	
Totals	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	1	10	4	9	8	19	11	44	24	68	

APPENDIX

DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

(July 5th to December 31st, 1948)

1. *Ambulance Service*

At the 5th July, 1948, four ambulances were taken over from the Borough of Sale, and in the period under review delivery of a new Humber ambulance was received and a sitting case car was purchased from the Fire Service. On 31st December, 1948, five ambulances and one sitting case car were in commission.

During the period 2,054 journeys were made, the mileage amounting to 17,885. In the whole year 1947, 1,757 journeys were made, the mileage being 18,734.

2. *Vaccination and Immunisation*

On 5th July, 1948, vaccination ceased to be compulsory. Vaccination and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough is carried out by general practitioners in their surgeries and on a sessional basis at the Chapel Road Clinic. Completed records cards for vaccination and immunisation received from private practitioners were:—

No. of vaccinations	49
No. of diphtheria immunisations	31
No. of whooping cough immunisations	7

At the Chapel Road Clinic the figures are:—

No. of vaccinations	2
No. of diphtheria immunisations	277
No. of whooping cough immunisations	217

Many more immunisations have been performed by private practitioners, but there is no obligation for a record form to be rendered. Payment upon receipt of the record was promised by the Ministry but the fee to be paid has not yet been fixed.

3. *Infant Welfare*

Two infant welfare clinic sessions are held weekly at the Chapel Road Centre and on October 21st a clinic was started at the Sale Moor Community Hut once weekly. The attendances at these clinics during the period under review were:—

Chapel Road

No. of first attendances	59
Total number of attendances	1640
No. of consultations with medical officer	542

Sale Moor

No. of first attendances	94
Total number of attendances	278
No. of consultations with medical officer	141

4. *Domiciliary Midwifery*

There are four County Council midwives working in the Borough. Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held weekly at the Chapel Road Clinic. The attendances during the period under review were:—

Ante-natal	104
Post-natal	4

The number of post-natal attendances is regrettably low, the full value of this service not being fully appreciated by many mothers. Post-natal examination six weeks after confinement would prevent much inconvenience and even suffering in later life, by enabling minor disorders to be corrected at their commencement.

5. *Domestic Help*

Three whole-time home helps were employed and use was made of casual home help workers as they have been required and available. During the period assistance was given to 37 households. In the coming year it is hoped to increase the establishment of whole-time home helps.

The charges for the services of a home help are:—2s. 3d. per hour, or 18s. per day.

The charges are subject to reduction according to a scale of assessment, and may be further reduced in cases of hardship at the discretion of the Divisional Committee.

6. *Home Nursing*

Three home nurses (formerly known as District Nurses) are employed in the Borough.

7. *Day Nursery*

There is one day nursery in the Borough which has accommodation for 50 children, and there is a long waiting list for admission.

8. *Requisites for the Nursing of the Sick*

A stock of articles required for the nursing of the sick has been prepared. These articles are available on loan on the recommendation of a doctor or nurse. There is a returnable deposit on each article and in the case of the more expensive items a weekly rental charge. The rental may be reduced or waived in cases of hardship at the discretion of the Divisional Committee. The District Nurses hold a small stock of these items, and the remainder is held at the Ambulance Depot, Chapel Road, where application should be made for their use. Items such as beds and bedding are available from a central County Council store by application to the Divisional Medical Officer.

Mackie & Co. Ltd.
The Guardian Press
Sale—7355